
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE CLASSIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE
APRIL 9TH, 2015**

**Hatton Hall
34 East 7th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281
5:30 PM**

Call to Order

Roll Call

1. Call to Audience: Persons wishing to address the Subcommittee on any matter may do so at the discretion of the Chair. However, Arizona Open Meeting Law limits Subcommittee discussion to matters listed on the posted agenda. Other topics may be placed on a future agenda for discussion.
2. Approval of March 12th, 2015 meeting minutes
3. Discuss and Consider Draft Archaeologically Sensitive Classification Subcommittee Report
4. Chair / Staff Updates

Current Events / Announcements / Future Agenda Items

- Member Announcements
- Staff Announcements

Adjourn

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04/03/2015 4:36 PM

**MINUTES OF THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE CLASSIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE
March 12, 2015**

Hatton Hall at the Governor Benjamin B. Moeur House Campus
34 E. 7th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281
5:00 PM

Commission Present:

Korri Turner, Chair
Andrea Gregory
Scott Solliday

City Staff Present:

Billy Kiser, Graduate Intern
John Larsen Southard, Historic Preservation Officer

Meeting called to order at 5:10 p.m.

1. Elections

- Commissioner Solliday nominated Commissioner Turner for the position of chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gregory and passed with a vote of 3-0.
- 2. Call to Audience:** Persons wishing to address the Subcommittee on any matter may do so at the discretion of the Chair. However, Arizona Open Meeting Law limits Subcommittee discussion to matters listed on the posted agenda. Other topics may be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

- No Reply

3. Overview of Tempe's Archaeologically Sensitive Classification

- HPO: Ordinance calls for Archaeologically Sensitive-classified ("AS") areas to be flagged in the City permitting system, but process is imperfect and these sites are not comprehensively flagged. Per the ordinance, applicants for permits should be advised of AS status if their property falls within that area.
- HPO: At present, HPO fully reliant on counter staff to inform permit applicants of AS status.
- HPO: Current inability to determine with precision if a property falls with an AS area

4. Discuss and Consider Subcommittee scope and work plan

- Subcommittee agrees on the need for AZSITE subscription and Tempe archaeological site shape files
- Should consider a ranking system for flagging AS sites based on levels of significance and sensitivity
- Discussion of current ordinance language regarding archaeology
- AS definitions in city ordinance need to be rewritten for specificity and clarity
- HPO should seek an archaeologist to assist with ordinance revisions, especially the language and definitional components
- Draft of Subcommittee suggestions to be written by HPO and, following Subcommittee approval, submitted to HPC for discussion and approval.

- A broad overview of subcommittee recommendations is as follows:
 1. To fulfill responsibilities outlined in the ordinance, HPO needs AZSITE access and shape files for AS areas in Tempe
 2. AZSITE data should be incorporated into City permitting system
 3. HPO should draft a handout to be given to customers seeking permits for projects on AS-classified parcels
- HPO should consult with the City of Phoenix HPO regarding their robust archaeological policies and recommendations
- Commissioner Gregory moved the HPO draft a report outlining the subcommittee's recommendations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solliday and passed with a vote of 3-0.

5. Chair / Staff Updates

- No comments

Chair Turner adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Prepared by: Billy Kiser, Graduate Intern

Reviewed by: John Larsen Southard, Senior Planner / Historic Preservation Officer

Korri Turner, Chair

**CITY OF TEMPE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**Meeting Date: 04/09/2015
Agenda Item: 3**

ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE CLASSIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

SUMMARY: Documentation of the proceedings and recommendations of the Historic Preservation Commission Archaeologically Sensitive Classification Subcommittee. The subcommittee has identified deficiencies in the execution of the Archaeologically Sensitive ("AS") classification provisions found in §§ 14A-4(k), 14A-6(g), and 14A-7(k) of the Tempe Historic Preservation Ordinance ("Ordinance"). Accordingly, the subcommittee provides the Historic Preservation Commission ("HPC") six recommendations to ensure compliance with the abovementioned sections.

DRAFT

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

STAFF CONTACT: John Larsen Southard, Historic Preservation Officer (480) 350-8870

Department Director: Dave Nakagawara, Community Development Director
Legal review by: N/A

DRAFT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

§§ 14A-4(k), 14A-6(g), and 14A-7(k) of the Ordinance outline the process for identifying and classifying AS lands, and the City's requirements when in receipt of a submittal involving alteration, construction, or demolition on AS-classified parcels. There are currently forty-six such classifications, with most of the AS sites encompassing numerous parcels. Twenty-nine of the forty-six AS classifications were based upon archaeological surveys completed prior to 1992. The most recent survey information utilized for an AS classification dates to 2002, and serves as the basis for inclusion of three sites on the AS list. Numerous surveys of Tempe archaeological sites have been completed since 2002. However, the Tempe Historic Preservation Office ("HPO") does not have access to the Arizona Archaeological Site and Survey Database ("AZSITE"), a subscription-based database of known archaeological sites throughout the state. As such, the Archaeologically Sensitive sites identified in HPO records do not accurately reflect all known prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

Per §§ 14A-6(g) and 14A-7(k), applicants seeking to alter, construct, or demolish buildings, structures, or objects on AS-classified land "shall be advised as to the status of the property, potentially applicable state and federal requirements, and suggested course(s) of action." Identifying whether a project site has been classified Archaeologically Sensitive is currently challenging. The current classifications exist only in the form of shape files, and may or may not be accurately reflected in the City's mapping systems. When HPO received requests for information regarding AS-classification status, the current practice of making such a determination involves consulting a large printed map with outlines of AS-classified sites overlaid onto an aerial photo of Tempe. Further, while applicants seeking approval for projects on AS land are to receive the information stated above, there is not currently a protocol for delivering said information.

CONCLUSION

After reviewing the Ordinance and seeking further information from HPO Southard, the Archaeologically Sensitive Classification Subcommittee determined that the Archaeologically Sensitive classification responsibilities outlined in the Ordinance are not being fully executed. Lack of AZSITE database access prevents the HPO from identifying new sites warranting AS classification, uncertainty as to data reliability for currently classified sites may hinder efforts to determine a project site's AS status, and lack of an information delivery protocol raises questions as to whether required disclosures are being issued.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) In order to carry out the responsibilities outlined in the Ordinance and the Certified Local Government Program Agreement-related commitments made to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, the Tempe Historic Preservation Officer requires AZSITE access.
- (2) Integrate AS classifications into any and all City systems used for planning, reviewing, and permitting ground disturbing activities within Tempe city limits. Special language highlighting the City's requirements relating to City-owned property should be incorporated in the system file for any such parcels. All AS-related notifications should include HPO and Arizona State Museum contact information.
- (3) Prepare an AS classification handout for distribution to applicants whose proposal involves land classified as such. This handout should discuss the significance of AS lands, the legal requirements associated with discovery of human remains and / or funerary objects, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's ("SRPMIC") Cultural Sensitivity Training course, and sources of additional information on archaeology and cultural resource laws.
- (4) Train all City mapping and permitting system users as to the significance of AS lands and what the Ordinance requires when the City receives a submittal involving AS classified land.

- (5) Encourage all City staff, contractors, and volunteers tasked with planning, reviewing, managing, or executing ground-disturbing projects – including members of the HPC – to complete SRPMIC's Cultural Sensitivity Training. In addition, encourage all City leadership overseeing said staff and / or contractors, to complete the SRPMIC course.
- (6) Require the HPO to provide HPC with periodic updates as to progress made in addressing these deficiencies

Korri Turner, Chair, Historic Preservation Commission Archaeologically Sensitive Classification Subcommittee